

PORTLAND INQUIRER.

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All Men are Created Equal.—Declaration of Independence.

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subscriptions.

THE HISTORY OF A DAY; OR,
SELF-EXAMINATION.

BY COUSIN ALICE.

"I do not like these very old writers," said Mrs. Richards to her sister Ellen, as they laid aside a volume in which the young lady had been reading aloud.

"And Jeremy Taylor's style is so simple and clear," Ellen returned, and gathering up her work she left the room to dress for dinner.

Alice Richards had been listening very intensely, although the elder ladies did not notice it. She was often in the room while they read aloud, and had learned a great many things from the travels, and voyages, and lessseys, which they chose in turn. This morning the book was very grave, and she had been thinking of a great many things that had never passed through her mind before.

She laid down the doll's dress she was making, and came to her mamma's knee, leaning there, as she often did, and looking up into her face.

"Please, mamma, what was that aunt Ellen read about thinking things over three times every night?"

"And what does my little daughter know of such matters as these?" answered Mrs. Richards, as she pressed back the curl from her daughter's forehead, and looked fondly into her clear blue eyes.

"Oh, I often think, mamma, about very old and very wise things, because you know I have not any little brothers and sisters to play with, and so I just think, and think, and think. Will you tell me what aunt Ellen says?"

Mrs. Richards took up the volume, and opened it at a pretty book mark Alice had worked for them.

"It was a quotation my dear from a still older source than Jeremy Taylor, although he lived two hundred years ago. Pythagoras was a celebrated philosopher, who established a famous school in Italy, where he taught morality and virtue, as well as the arts and sciences. This was one of his maxims to his scholars—

"Let not sleep seize upon the regions of your senses, before you have three times recalled the conversation and accidents of the day."

"Which means that every night before we go to sleep, we ought to think over all that we have done and said."

"Three times, seems to be, lest we should forget in the hurry of one examination some important circumstance."

"Why mamma?" was that all the little girl said.

"Because it helps us to see our faults more plainly and how we came to be led into them. It is a serious daily duty my little daughter, and is called 'Self-Examination.'

"Shall I try it, mamma?"

"I think it would be a very good plan, if you can remember to do so, but I am afraid dolly and papa, and your cousin Margaret's wit will put all such grave thoughts out of your mind."

Alice slept in a light closet, or as some would call it a small room, opening from her mamma's. Seven o'clock was bed-time in the lengthened autumn evenings, and though the little girl thought it a very hard matter sometimes to quit her work or play at the striking of the clock, she seldom was inclined to be disobedient. This evening it was unusually provoking, for her cousin Margaret had loaned her a book she was very anxious to finish.

"And now," thought Alice, "as her mamma bade her 'good night,' and returned to the parlor, 'now I am going to begin at the very beginning.' But her thoughts wandered to the moonlight that was shining clearly into the room, making everything distinct, from the match safe on the mantle, to the carving of the pretty crib.

"I should really like to know," said the reverie of little Alice, "who lives in the moon. Is there a real 'man' up there, and what did he 'come down too soon' for? Perhaps if he hadn't we should have known all about it. He could have staid long enough to tell us. But it seems to me I had something to do—what was it—oh, I know now," and a pleased smile of recollection brightened to the wandering blue eyes, still fixed on the moonlight.

"I was to begin self-examination."

"First of all, I think I was rather cross to papa at breakfast this morning. How did it happen? I dropped my fork on the carpet, and he said I must be careful. I said I was careful; though I do believe it was looking at Rolla wag his tail for a bit of beef steak, that made me do so. Mamma gave me a look, as much as to say: 'why Alice!' and that made me downright sulky."

It was rather a humiliating confession to commence with, and Miss Alice seemed to feel it so.

"However"—and again the little face brightened in the moonlight—"I felt sorry

and told mamma so before I went to school, and so everything went right all the morning. I knew my history lesson, and learned one of those bothersome tables in arithmetic, and wrote my copy without a blot. But I think I teased Miss Clarke, by asking so many questions when she was busy, and I will be careful not to do so to-morrow. Then I came home as fast as I could, for I knew aunt Ellen would be reading to mamma. What a sweet voice aunt Ellen has? And I guess Mr. Harrison thinks so too. He said, last night, and I heard him, (they think I never hear,) he should remember her singing a good many times when he was away. I wonder why great big men have to go to sea, whether they want to or not?

"But, dear me! where was I? Oh, coming home. And Martha hadn't my luncheon ready; and I was in a hurry to get to the parlor; and I said to her face she was disagreeable, and I couldn't bear her. I wonder why it wasn't ready?—Oh, there, I did not think before. He had the toothache, and Martha had been helping her iron. Oh I am sorry I was so ill-natured! I wonder if she told mamma? Then I did not go and put on clean pantaloons, though I knew I should have done so; and I took Dolly and went into the parlor. Then I heard aunt Ellen read about self-examination, in that marble-covered book. Aunt Ellen had on a new ring, with blue stones in it. I wonder if Mr. Harrison gave it to her?"

Here came a decided yawn, though the blue eyes did not look sleepy yet.

"Maggie came before we were through dinner, and I forgot all about the pantaloons, and we played until four, and then mamma said we might go out with her. I am almost sure it was to buy my new winter bonnet. Maggie wanted to go very much, and mamma was all ready, and then she looked at my splashed pantaloons, and shook her head. I said I wouldn't be a minute changing them, but she hadn't a minute to spare. So we lost our walk, and Maggie was so sorry. It was too bad! I forgot one thing; it wasn't very kind in me to tell Miss Clarke that Annie James was whispering. I hate tell-tales myself. I wonder if that's Mr. Harrison come? I'm sure that's the door bell. I wonder what it was, paper said at tea, that made aunt Ellen blush so?—When I am grown up my little girls shall sit as long as they like to tea, and shall have cake and jelly both. I felt almost angry at mamma, when she asked me if I heard the clock strike. Of course I wonder what good it does for people to think over everything? Perhaps I shouldn't have remembered being cross, and gone on so, right off to-morrow. Or I might have forgotten what I just think of, that I have not finished my letter to brother John, that was to go in paper tomorrow. I did not have to look out half so many words in the dictionary this time. I will—try—not to—but other Miss Clarke so much to-morrow. I did not know—did not—did not know, how easy I was made cross before. I am to—think it all over—three times. Yes, three—three times. I wish my eyes would keep open. I'm sleepy—too sleepy!"

And here the little head fell more heavily on the pillow, and the closed eyes shut out the morning light. Little Alice was fairly sick, but she had commenced a habit that was to be of very great use to her, for we are not apt to fall so easily into these faults that we coolly acknowledge to ourselves we have been guilty of; and things seem very differently to us in the calm hours of reflection, from the passing glance we first give to them.

THE LEWISTON COMPANY.

A financial article in the Boston Post, speaking of the depression of New England interests, predicts that a better time is coming, both for railroads and factories. Of the valuable property and water power held by the Lewiston Co., Maine, it says "Its first cost was low—it has been beautifully managed, and owes nothing, and after the payment of the next final assessment, it will have a floating cash capital for future improvements of more than \$225,000. The whole capital of the concern is \$1,000,000. By a recent vote of the directors, a large and perfectly finished factory, just finished on the premises, with a fine lot of land, numerous boarding houses, and a cash capital of \$100,000, has been set apart as a dividend to the stockholders. It is to form a separate manufacturing establishment, and the stock is to be divided among the Lewiston proprietors. This dividend is estimated at 40 per cent. The facilities for manufacturing and accumulating disasters and calamities. Let the young man be cherished, for he honors his country, and dignifies his race. High blood—if this course not in his veins, he is free born American, and therefore a sovereign and a prince. Wealth—what cares he for that, so long as his heart is pure and his walk upright—he knows, and his country knows, and his country tells, that the little finger of an honest and upright man is worth more than the whole body of an effeminate and dishonest rich man. These are the men who make the country—who bring to it whatever of iron sinew and unfailing spirit it possesses or desires—who are rapidly rendering it the mightiest, most powerful as it is already the freest land beneath the circle of the sun."

I WILL BE GOOD TO-DAY.

"I will be good, dear mother." I heard a sweet child say;

"I will be good; now watch me—I will be good all day."

She lifted up her bright young eyes, With a soft and pleasing smile:

Then a mother's kiss was on her lips,

So pure and free from guile.

And when night came, that little one, In kneeling down to pray,

Said, in a soft and whispering tone,

"Have I been good to-day?"

O, many, many bitter tears "I would save us, did we say,

Like that dear child, with earnest heart,

"I will be good to-day."

THE PROMPT GIRL.

The prompt girl rises with the lark in the morning. When the gray dawn steals in at her window, she springs from her bed and in a very few minutes she is dressed, and prepared to make her appearance in the family, to assist her mother if necessary; or if not needed there, to go to her devotions and her study. She has done perhaps, in fifteen or twenty minutes, what the dilatory girl would be an hour and a half in doing, and did it equally as well. She is always in time. She never keeps the table waiting, and never comes after the blessing. She is never late at prayers: never late at school; never late at church. And yet she is never in a hurry. She redeems so much time by her promptness, that she has as much as she needs, to do everything well and in time. She saves all the time that the dilatory girl spends in sauntering, in considering what to do next, in sauntering frivously mated out of the proper time for reading, and gazing idly at vacancy.

This good habit, our readers will perceive, must be of great advantage to the one who possesses it, as long as she lives. It is however, within the reach of all. Only carry out the idea we have given of promptness one day, and then repeat it every day, and in a little time, the habit is established.—Rev. H. Newcomb.

DEFERENCE TO PARENTS.

Not only are the young apt to forget the respect due to parents, but oft-times we see children of older growth forgetting those who have reared them from infancy, and their waywardness causing their parents to shed tears when it should be their duty to give them reason for smiles. No sight is there that is so revolting to an upright man, as to see youth disrespecting grey hairs, but when we find a man, arrived at the age of discretion, neglecting his silver-haired parents, and treating them with contempt, words are forcible enough to express the feelings which naturally arise in every breast. This very idea that the boyish ignorance, lawless exile, and an affecting to look upon his worn and pensive features, indicative of the noble struggle he has been carrying on in his own mind for love of country. His appearance and speeches among us have inclined many hearts towards him and his and hostile.—*Zion's Herald*.

Kossuth.—The reception of Kossuth in this city, the last week was really imposing and enthusiastic. Well might he say, as he did, that as he approached the region of frost and snow, he found the hearts of men warm with friendly sympathy and interest. It was a brave sight to behold the people, *en masse*, turning out to welcome a homeless, houseless exile, and an affecting to look upon his worn and pensive features, indicative of the noble struggle he has been carrying on in his own mind for love of country. His appearance and speeches among us have inclined many hearts towards him and his and hostile.—*Zion's Herald*.

BOSTON AT THE KEY-HOLE.

Under this caption, the Commonwealth tells the rich story that Mayor Seaver (the head of the Boston City Government, which did not want to see Kossuth) did go to see him at the council chamber reception, with several ladies, and without tickets. Wishing to see the Magyar without being seen himself, he slipped into the Governor's private closet, intending to look through the key-hole, when some of the councillors locked the door upon him and his party, and then they remained until after the ceremonies. The Commonwealth cannot say whether the Councillors locked in the Mayor on purpose or not, but answers for the fact.

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THE MAINE LAW IN EUROPE.

WE ARE PLEASED TO FIND THAT THE MAINE LAW.

MATERIAL AIDS.

WHEN THE CITY AUTHORITIES

OF CHARLESTON WERE DEBATING WHETHER TO INVITE KOSSUTH TO BUNKER HILL, AND MAKING A STUMBLING BLOCK OF THE EXPENSE, JACOB FOSS, ESQ., OFFERED TO STAND HALF THE EXPENSE WITHIN A REASONABLE AMOUNT, AND AFTER THE RECEPTION HE PRESENTED KOSSUTH A PURSE CONTAINING \$350 IN GOLD COINS OF THE LARGEST DENOMINATION.

THE ELEGANT GUN CASE WAS PRESENTED TO KOSSUTH BY MR. ZEMMUS C. HOWLAND, SON-IN-LAW OF MR. FOSS.

THE POPULAR EDUCATION IN KENTUCKY.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE KENTUCKY SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION JUST ISSUED, SHOWS A GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE SYSTEM OF POPULAR EDUCATION IN THAT STATE.

THE COMMON SCHOOL FUND FOR THE YEAR 1851 AMOUNTED TO \$123,000 AND THERE ARE 106,000 CHILDREN IN THE STATE WITH SCHOOL AGES.

THE SUPERINTENDENT ESTIMATES THE INCOME FROM BONDS, BANK STOCK, AND TAXES, SET APART FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES FOR THE PRESENT YEAR, AT \$133,000, AND THINKS IT MAY IN A FEW YEARS REACH \$140,000.

KENTUCKY HAS HERETOFORE BEEN BEHIND MANY OF HER SISTER STATES OF THE WEST IN AFFORDING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES TO THE CHILDREN OF THE POOR, BUT SHE IS GRADUALLY REALIZING THE IMPORTANCE AND NECESSITY OF SUCH A WORK, AND IS GRADUALLY PUTTING FORTH HER EFFORTS FOR ITS ACCOMPLISHMENT.

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KENTUCKY HAS HERETOFORE BEEN BEHIND MANY OF HER SISTER STATES OF THE WEST IN AFFORDING

emancipation; and that, in the recent work of Harriet Beecher Stowe, we have a picture of American Slavery that is read by tens of thousands, causing very many to weep and pray and resolve, that they will strive, while life shall last, for its overthrow and annihilation.

9. That the example of the humane and disinterested advocates of freedom, among the editorial and literary corps is a just rebuke to the subservient individuals and societies who have meanly expurgated their own works, or the works of others, of all sentiments denunciatory of slavery, lest they should be denounced by slaveholders and their apologists.

10. That the thanks of this meeting be given to the friends of the oppressed in Canada, for acting the part of good Samaritan toward the unhappy subjects of oppression who have fled to them for refuge, and to the friends of impartial liberty in England, Canada, the West Indies and elsewhere, who have strengthened the hands of American abolitionists; and that we treat them, while they deservedly rebuke our own countrymen who, on taking up their abode with us, prove recreant to the Anti-Slavery cause, to be equally faithful to Americans among them who affect to be the friends and advocates of emancipation, while still opposed to the cause at home.

11. That for the sake of the slave, for the

prosperity of the country, and for the good

of the Church of Christ, we earnestly de-

sire the union of all abolitionists, and their

harmonious action in behalf of their colored

brethren, believing that the highest obliga-

tions rest upon the people of these States to

remove Slavery by moral and political ac-

tion, and being determined, in the fear of

God, and in sympathy with every friend of

humanity who will co-operate with us. At

the same time we trust, to assist the pulpit and the press in the cause of the suf-

fering and the dumb, to aim at a purification

of the churches from all participation in the

guilt of Slavery, to encourage the labor of

freedom rather than that of slaves by giving

a preference to their productions, sparing

no exertions to bring the whole nation to

speedy reparation—our trust for victory be-

ing God, through whom TAUTH, JUSTICE,

REASON, and HUMANITY must and will glo-

riously triumph.

Hon. E. D. Culver was then introduced.—

He said that to speak in support of these resolutions will call forth severe denunciations in certain political papers among us and in one large section of the Union. They call us agitators, and if you ask a reason, they will tell you about the finality of a cer-

tain adjustment. Adjusted? By whom?

By a minority of Congress; and I know

whereof I affirm, the largest vote being 109

out of 231, and a large number of these under

the influence of strong drink. I remem-

ber that when General Jackson vetoed the

bank bill, the first thing done by the new

Congress that was elected with General Har-

rison was to charter the bank, and the

Democrats proclaimed all over the Union

that they would repeal the bill, and so they

would, too, if Captain Tyler had not saved

them the trouble by his veto.

He argued at length on the doctrine of

the Compromise? Go to your state-book and

see the resolutions passed during four suc-

cessive sessions of our legislature declar-

ing the mind of the people of New York on all the

points involved in the Compromise measures.

Mr. Clay told the South, and truly, that they

ought not to complain, for they got all they

wanted. What did we get? We got a law

in regard to the District of Columbia almost

as good as the old Slave State of Maryland

had enjoyed for four and twenty years. We

got California. Mr. C. contrasted the ad-

mission of California, and that of Texas.—

Why the difference? One came in at the

call of freedom, and the other at the bidding of

slavery. What on the other side? We

by the crack of the southern whip repre-

sentatives of free States, instructed by their

constituents to support the Wilmot Proviso,

abandoned it at last. Then we come to the

Texas boundary bill, by which no less than

92,000 square miles of free territory, twice

as large as the State of New York, were

made over to Slavery, and in consequence,

to accept of ten millions of dollars. What

a bargain that was! You farmers, when you

put up a stock of grain, keep back one large

bundle for a cap-sheaf to bind and crown

the whole. The farmers at Washington un-

derstood that idea, and they kept the fugi-

tive slave law for the cap-sheaf of the Com-

promise. That act denies the trial by jury;

it suspends the habeas corpus, I say this in

face of Mr. Crittenden's sophistry, and it cuts

off all hope, and then by a refinement of

meanness, puts a five dollar gold piece in

to the scale against him—a bribe amply suf-

cient to secure the action of that creature

down at the City Hall. He examined the

argument that the fugitive slave act is law.—

He closed by an appeal to Christians in be-

half of the slave.

Rev. John T. Raymond, pastor of a Bap-

tist church in this city, was next called for-

ward. He is a colored man of talents, and

great force of expression, but totally blind.

He dwelt upon the evils and absurdities of

caste. He said he was born by accident in

the State of Virginia. He told a story of a

physician in Petersburg, who went so far as

to feel the pulse of a slave man with the

head of his cane. The man died, but he

was only a slave, and no notice was taken of

it. He described a scene at a love-feast, where

Brother Richmond Sampson put down the presiding elder, Jesse Lee, and brought him to his knees in the alter. He

detected a variety of incidents illustrative of

the operation of caste in southern religion.

It cripples the colored man who is inclined

by his talents to raise himself to eminence.

They cannot compete in your public meet-

ings, in your courts, or your halls of legisla-

ture. It cripples their industry and enter-

prise, it deprives them of the benefit of their

moral character for integrity and prudence.

Through caste they are borne down by the

inswelling flood of emigrants, and we are in

a low condition, and our men are well nigh

discouraged; and know not what to do. And

I bless God for this meeting and these words

of encouragement and sympathy. We need

your prayers, we need the voice of the pul-

pit in our behalf, and we hope the press will

speak for us. We have the prejudice of the

world; but to be borne down by the preju-

dice of the church, it is contrary to the word

of God, and what can we do? I hope these

resolutions will be carried out, and that slav-

ery will die, and that the colored man will

enjoy his right as a man.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher rose next. He

said, At so late an hour, when your time has

all been so profitably spent, I could not

think of making a long speech. I would

wish above all things to have this assembly

go away with a religious impression. Poli-

cicians wonder whence is the tenacity of

life of anti-slavery movement. It is not

stand. Nothing that is not thoroughly right

can stand. Men may lash and plaster over the

Crater of Vesuvius, but it will boil over by and by. The fugitive Slave Law can never remain

permanently upon our Statute Book. It may

make temporary peace between certain unprin-

cipled factions, and good men may hard to

grip it down for the sake of the Union; but

still it will remain true, as General old

and wise, that they have healed slightly the hurt of the

Daughter of my People, saying Peace, Peace,

when there is no peace."

A Voice—Is she a friend of yours? [Laugh-

er.]

Mr. Carter to Mr. Giddings—I did not see

the publick.

Mr. Giddings resumed. He thought it was

not proper at this time to investigate the mor-

ality or immorality of these people. He

knew what they were, formerly, and while he

might agree with his colleagues as to the bad

morals of the Mormons, it was well known that

there are things here far transcending those in

Utah, and which are permitted under our own

rights and by our own authority.

Women here are raised purposely for mar-

ket, and he protested that while these things

existed it was wrong to go to Utah to correct

evils. We ought, considering that the Mor-

nons have been driven out of the States,

to try to reconcile them to our Government,

and make them good citizens by treating them

with kindness and forbearance. He dissented

entirely from the recommendation of his col-

league to send a military force there.

The bill to establish the Texas boundaries was then taken up.

Mr. Richardson moved an appropriation of

\$25,000 for commencing the survey. As he

intended to take no gentleman by surprise, he

stated that \$211,000 will be required for estab-

lishing the boundary, but only \$25,000 this

year.

CERTAINLY SO.—The Congregationalist, which

we read with increasing interest and command

to others, says:

"These 'Compromise Measures,' cannot

stand. Nothing that is not thoroughly right

The Farmer.

Subsoil Plowing.

"It is vastly strange if this is so great an improvement over the old-fashioned mode of plowing, that so few are found to practise it. In fact, nobody practises it. A few fancy farmers have tried it, with indifferent success, and the great mass of farmers have failed to be convinced of its advantages. The cost of such a process will deter them from even attempting it, unless the benefits be great and manifest."

I clip the above from a Connecticut paper, (the Sentinel of Middletown,) but hope it is not a true indication of the state of agricultural intelligence in that State, although I am aware some of her farmers are about as much in the dark ages as they were a century or two ago. To question the benefit of deep plowing, at this day, shows a lamentable want of intelligence. To say "nobody, in fact, practises it," only means a small circle of the *nobodies* of the editor's acquaintances. The sneering remark that none but a few fancy farmers have ever tried the subsoil plow in Connecticut, is proving too much—it proves the mass of them are as far behind this age of improvement in agriculture, as their old bog meadows and alder swamps are behind their capabilities of production when drained, and that there is as much need of improvement in the swampy intellect of one as in the soil of the other.

Working Farmer.

Arrangement of Soils.

The following classification of soils was recommended to the Irish Farmers, by Mr. Griffiths Land Surveyor and Valuator, at the instance of the British Government. It will be found interesting to the student of Agriculture, and to the general reader as an Agricultural Nomenclature.

All soils may be arranged under four heads, each representing the characteristic ingredients, as 1. Argillaceous, or clayey; 2. Silicious, or sandy; 3. Calcareous, or limy; 4. Peaty.

For practical purposes it will be desirable to subdivide each of these classes:—

Thus argillaceous soils may be divided into three varieties, viz.:—Clay, clay loam, and argillaceous alluvium.

Of silicious soils there are four varieties, viz.:—Sandy, gravelly, silty, and rocky.

Of calcareous soils we have three varieties, viz.:—Limestone, limestone gravel, and marl.

Of peat soils two varieties, viz.:—Moor, and peat, or bog.

In describing in the field book the different qualities of soils, the following explanatory words may be used as occasion may require:—

Stiff—Where a soil contains a large proportion, say one-half, or even more, of tenacious clay, it is called stiff. In dry weather this kind of soil cracks, and opens, and has a tendency to form into large and hard lumps, particularly if ploughed in wet weather.

Friable—Where the soil is loose and open, and is generally the case in sandy, gravelly, and moory lands.

Strong—Where a soil contains a considerable portion of clay, and has some tendency to form into clods or lumps, it may be called strong.

Deep—Where the soil exceeds ten inches in depth, the term deep may be applied.

Shallow—Where the depth of the soil is less than eight inches.

Dry—Where the soil is friable, and the subsoil porous, (if there be no springs,) the term dry should be used.

Wet—Where the soil, or subsoil, is very tenacious, or where springs are numerous.

Sharp—Where there is a moderate proportion of gravel, or small stones.

Fine or soft—Where the soil contains no gravel, but is chiefly composed of very fine sand, or soft, light earth, without gravel.

Cold—Where the soil rests on a tenacious clay or subsoil, and has a tendency when in pasture, to produce rushes and other aquatic plants.

Sandy or Gravelly—Where there is a large proportion of sand or gravel, through the soil.

Silty—Where the silty substratum is much intermixed with the soil.

Worn—Where the soil has been a long time under cultivation, without rest or manure.

Poor—Where the land is naturally of bad quality.

Hungry—Where the the soil contains a considerable portion of gravel, or coarse sand, resting on a gravelly subsoil; on such land manure does not produce the usual effect.

The colors of soils may also be introduced, as brown, yellow, blue, gray, red, black, &c.

Also, where applicable, the words steep, level, shrubby, rocky, exposed, &c., may be used.

Method of Growing Melons.

Select the poorest, and if possible a completely barren piece of ground; the reason for which will appear in the sequel. Lay off your ground into holes 2 1/2 or 3 feet square, in rows 8 feet by 10. Late in the fall or during the winter, these holes must be filled with manure even with the surface, and then filled up into hills with the soil or clay taken from them. Plant the seed from the 1st of April to first of June, according to your latitude, or your desire for early or late melons. From the 15th of April to the 1st of May is a good time in the latitude of Virginia and North Carolina. To avoid the ravages of the striped bug, as well as in some measure obtain the advantage of a hot-bed, I intend hereafter to make small boxes, without bottoms, but covered on the top with millet, which will, I think, effectually answer the purpose intended, and save me much anxiety, as well as trouble in having to visit my tender vines twice a day to destroy bugs.

The best watermelon I have ever seen, is the Hanover, with white seed and red "meat." After the vines commence running, the boxes can be removed and packed away safely until another year. No work is required after the first, second, or third week, as it is disadvantageous to disturb the vines after they have commenced running pretty freely, being liable to be bruised or broken, and the ground around the hills being barren gives entire freedom to the vines to run, and the melons to ripen, without being shaded or injured by weeds or other growth.—*Genesee Farmer.*

Looking Glasses for Birds.

A correspondent of the Gardeners Chronicle says:

"The following plan is perfectly efficacious for scaring birds from fruit and other produce. One of my servants having by chance broken a looking glass it occurred to me that the broken pieces suspended by a string, so as to turn freely in every direction, would give the appearance of something moving about, which would alarm the birds. I accordingly tried the plan, and found that no bird, not even the most fool-hardy of them, dares come near. They had attacked my peas; on suspending a few bits of the looking glass amongst them, the intruders left the place. The tomits attacked my seckle pears, to which they seem very partial. A bit of looking glass suspended in front of the tree put them much damaged before they were ripe, by thrushes and starlings; a piece of looking glass drove these away, and not a grape was touched afterwards. I had before tried many plans, but never found any so effectual as the above."

IMPORTANT NATIONAL STATISTICS.

Agriculture, Population, and Manufactures.
Report of J. C. G. Kennedy, Esq., the Superintendent of the Census, is one of the most valuable documents of the day. It abounds with facts and figures on important subjects, derived from the most authentic sources. We proceed to notice some of the most interesting:

The Population of the Union.—Assuming the population of California to be 165,000, (which we do partly by estimate) and omitting that of Utah, estimated at 12,000, the total number of inhabitants in the United States was, on the 1st of June, 1850, 23,246,301. The absolute increase from the 1st of June, 1840, had been 6,176,848, and the actual increase per cent is 36.18. But it has been shown that the probable amount of population, acquired by additions of territory should be deducted in making a comparison between the results of the present and last census. These reductions diminish the total population of the country, as a basis of comparison, to 23,074,301, and the increase to 6,004,848. The relative increase after this allowance, is found to be 35.17 per cent. The aggregate number of whites in 1851 was 19,619,366, exhibiting a gain upon the number of the same class in 1840 of 5,423,371, and a relative increase of 38.20 per cent. But excluding the 153,000 free population supposed to have been acquired by the addition of territory since 1840, the gain is 5,270,371, and the increase per cent is 37.40.

The Slaves.—The number of slaves, by the present census, is 3,198,278, which shows an increase of 711,085, equal to 58.58 per cent. If we deduct 19,000 for the probable slave population of Texas in 1840, the result of the comparison will be slightly different. The absolute increase will be 692,085, and the rate per cent, 37.83.

The Free Colored.—The number of free colored in 1850 was 428,637; in 1840, 386,245. The increase in this class was 42,392, or 10.95 per cent.

The Increase.—From 1830 to 1840 the increase of the whole population was at the rate of 32.67 per cent. At the same rate of advancement, the absolute gain for the ten years last past would have been 5,578,333, or 42,515 less than it has been, without including the increase consequent upon additions of territory.

Area of the States.—Taking the thirty-one States together, their area is 4,851,870 square miles, and the average number of their inhabitants is 1,548 to the square mile. The total area of the United States is 3,229,009 square miles, and the average density of population is 7,219 to the square mile.

Plants, being possessed of no locomotive powers, can grow only in places where they are supplied with food; and the soil is necessary to their existence, both as affording them nourishment and enabling them to fix themselves in such a manner as to obey those mechanical laws by which their radicles are kept below the surface, and their leaves exposed to the free atmosphere.

The earths found in plants are four; siliceous or the earth of flint, alumina, or pure clay, lime, and magnesia. They are procured by incineration. The lime is usually combined with carbonic acid. This substance and silica, are much more common in the vegetable kingdom than magnesia, and magnesia more common than alumina.

Potatoes in general afford from one-fifth to one-seventh of their weight of dry starch.

One-fourth part of the weight of the potato at least may be considered as nutritive matter.

Mr. Knight says that he has found the best potatos heavier than the inferior varieties.

Fruits, in the organization of their soft parts, approach the nature of the bulbs. They contain a certain quantity of nutriment laid up in their cells for the use of the embryo plant; mucilage, sugar, starch, are found in many of them often combined with vegetable acids.

If a solution of lime in water be exposed to the air, a pellicle will speedily form upon it, and a solid matter will gradually fall to the bottom of the water, and in a certain time the water will become tasteless; this is owing to the combination of the lime, which was dissolved in the water, with carbonic acid gas which existed in the atmosphere.

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